



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 41

January Session, 2003

Senate Bill No. 966

Senate, March 20, 2003

The Committee on Education reported through SEN. GAFFEY of the 13th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING ADULT EDUCATION.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subdivision (1) of section 10-67 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
3 *1, 2003*):

4 (1) "Adult" means any person sixteen years of age or over who is [no
5 longer] not enrolled in a public elementary or secondary school
6 program or a student enrolled in school who was assigned to an adult
7 class pursuant to subsection (d) of section 10-233d or section 10-73d.

8 Sec. 2. Subdivision (7) of section 10-67 of the general statutes is
9 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
10 *1, 2003*):

11 (7) "Eligible expenditure" means expenditures, or that portion
12 thereof, directly attributable to programs and services required
13 pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 10-69 and not

14 otherwise eligible for reimbursement from any other state grant for:
15 (A) Teachers, including teacher aides; (B) administration, including the
16 director; (C) clerical assistance; (D) printing; (E) instructional materials
17 and equipment, including computer equipment; [provided a local or
18 regional board of education's eligible expenditures for computer
19 equipment in any fiscal year shall not exceed five per cent of such
20 board's total eligible expenditures for such fiscal year;] (F) program
21 supplies; (G) facility rental other than for facilities provided by a local
22 or regional board of education pursuant to section 10-70; (H) staff
23 development; (I) counselors; (J) transportation; (K) security; and (L)
24 child care services.

25 Sec. 3. Subsection (b) of section 10-69 of the general statutes is
26 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
27 *1, 2003*):

28 (b) [No] (1) Prior to July 1, 2004, no providing school district shall
29 grant an adult education diploma to any adult education program
30 participant who has not satisfactorily completed a minimum of twenty
31 adult education credits, of which not fewer than four shall be in
32 English; not fewer than three in mathematics; not fewer than three in
33 social studies, including one in American history; not fewer than two
34 in science; and not fewer than one in the arts or vocational education.
35 On and after July 1, 2004, no providing school district shall grant an
36 adult education diploma to any adult education program participant
37 who has not satisfactorily completed a minimum of twenty adult
38 education credits, of which not fewer than four shall be in English; not
39 fewer than three in mathematics; not fewer than three in social studies,
40 including one in American history and at least a one-half credit course
41 in civics and American government; not fewer than two in science; and
42 not fewer than one in the arts or vocational education. (2) Each
43 providing school district shall determine the minimum number of
44 weeks per semester an adult education program shall operate and
45 shall provide certified counseling staff to assist adult education
46 program students with educational and career counseling.

47 Sec. 4. Subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 10-71 of the
48 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
49 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2003*):

50 (1) The percentage of the eligible costs for adult education a local
51 board of education shall receive, under the provisions of this section,
52 shall be determined as follows: (A) Each town shall be ranked in
53 descending order from one to one hundred sixty-nine according to
54 such town's adjusted equalized net grand list per capita, as defined in
55 section 10-261; and (B) based upon such ranking, a percentage of not
56 less than zero nor more than sixty-five shall be determined for each
57 town on a continuous scale, except that the percentage for a priority
58 school district pursuant to section 10-266p shall not be less than
59 twenty. Any such percentage shall be increased by seven and one-half
60 percentage points but shall not exceed sixty-five per cent for any local
61 board of education which provides basic adult education programs for
62 adults at facilities operated by or within the general administrative
63 control and supervision of the Department of Mental Health and
64 Addiction Services, provided such adults reside at such facilities. [Any
65 such percentage shall be increased by one and one-half percentage
66 points but shall not exceed sixty-five per cent for any local board of
67 education which served four thousand or more students who were
68 enrolled at least twelve hours in the fiscal year two years prior to the
69 year of the grant and whose ratio of students served in the fiscal year
70 two years prior to the year of the grant to persons in the town who
71 were twenty-five years of age or older and did not have a high school
72 diploma according to the most recent federal decennial census is
73 greater than fifteen one-hundredths. (C) Notwithstanding the
74 provisions of subparagraph (B) of this subdivision, any local board of
75 education which served two thousand or more students who were
76 enrolled at least twelve hours in the fiscal year two years prior to the
77 year of the grant shall receive a grant in the amount determined
78 pursuant to subparagraph (B) or the amount obtained by multiplying
79 the number of such students served in the fiscal year two years prior to
80 the year of the grant by twenty-five, whichever is greater.]

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2003</i>
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2003</i>
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2003</i>
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2003</i>

ED *Joint Favorable*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Type	FY 04 \$	FY 05 \$
Education, Dept.	GF - Cost	Potential	Potential

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact:

Municipalities	Effect	FY 04 \$	FY 05 \$
All Municipalities	Revenue Gain	Potential	Potential

Explanation

Section 1 of the bill is technical and has no fiscal impact.

Section 2 of the bill removes the cap of 5% on the percentage of eligible adult education expenditures that can be claimed for computer equipment. This may result in local and regional school districts being able to increase their reimbursable eligible expenditures and thus result in a cost to the state that in turn would be a revenue gain to local and regional school districts. Data is unavailable on whether districts have expended funds on computer equipment that they have been unable to claim reimbursement on and additionally future actions by local school districts cannot be projected therefore the potential cost to the state/revenue gain to local and regional school districts is uncertain.

Section 3 of the bill is technical and has no fiscal impact.

Section 4 of the bill that eliminates provisions regarding additional reimbursements for adult education for districts meeting specified criteria is anticipated to have no fiscal impact. No local or regional school district has qualified for these bonuses and none was expected

to in the future therefore although in theory the removal of the provisions would result in a state savings/local revenue loss it actually has no fiscal impact.

OLR Bill Analysis

SB 966

AN ACT CONCERNING ADULT EDUCATION**SUMMARY:**

This bill:

1. requires a student who receives an adult education diploma on or after July 1, 2004 to have completed at least a one-half credit course in civics and American government;
2. eliminates a limit on the amount of state-reimbursable adult education expenses a local or regional board of education may devote to computer equipment;
3. eliminates two bonus provisions from the adult education grant reimbursement formula; and
4. makes a technical change.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2003

CIVICS REQUIREMENT

Under the bill, the required one-half credit in civics and American government is part of the minimum three credits in social studies already required for an adult education diploma. The new requirement matches the civics requirement for a regular high school diploma enacted by the General Assembly in 2000 that applies starting with the class of 2004.

COMPUTER EQUIPMENT SPENDING LIMIT

State adult education grants reimburse local and regional boards of education for up to 65% of their eligible expenditures for adult education programs. The reimbursement depends mostly on each town's per capita property wealth. Among the reimbursable expenses are those for instructional material and equipment, including computer equipment. Under current law, eligible spending on computers is limited to 5% of a board's total eligible adult education spending for the year. The bill eliminates the 5% limit, giving boards discretion over how much of their reimbursable expenses to devote to computers.

FORMULA CHANGES

The bill eliminates two bonus provisions in the adult education reimbursement formula.

One gives an extra 1.5 percentage-point bonus, up to the 65% maximum, to a local board if (1) it served at least 4,000 students enrolled for at least 12 hours in the fiscal year two years before the grant year and (2) the number of adult education students it served in that earlier year exceeded 15% of the town's population age 25 or over with no high school diploma according to the most recent census.

The other allows a local board that served at least 2,000 students enrolled for at least 12 hours in the fiscal year two years before the grant year to receive the greater of (1) a grant based on its wealth ranking or (2) \$25 for each student served in the earlier year.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Education Committee

Joint Favorable Report

Yea 25 Nay 0